



MOTHER TERESA

LITTLE ACTS OF LOVE

Vol 800

www.amarchitrakatha.com



MOTHER TERESA



YUGOSLAVIA

Skopje

MACEDONIA

GREECE

1910, THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE, THAT COVERED MUCH OF THE BALKAN AREA OF EUROPE, WAS DISINTEGRATING. THERE WAS WAR EVERYWHERE AS ALBANIANS, SERBS, MACEDONIANS, CROATS, BULGARIANS, TURKS AND MANY OTHER PEOPLES FOUGHT TO CREATE THEIR OWN NATIONS.

BUT IN A HOUSE, IN THE TOWN OF SKOPJE, THERE WAS A MOMENT OF HAPPINESS. NIKOLA AND DRANA BOJAXHIU HAD A NEW BABY GIRL.



SHE'S BEAUTIFUL!

LET'S CALL HER AGNES.

NIKOLA AND DRANA WERE ALBANIANS.

AGNES WAS A CHEERFUL CHILD. HER OLDER BROTHER AND SISTER, LAZAR AND AGE, ADORED HER.



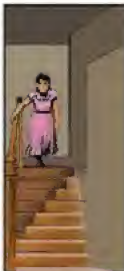
AGE! THROW IT TO GONXHAT!

CATCH!

AGNES GREW UP TO BE A THOUGHTFUL CHILD. ONE NIGHT -

C
L
I
N
K

I WONDER WHO'S UP SO LATE?



LAZAR, IT'S PAST MIDNIGHT AND YOU ARE HERE EATING JAM!



ARE YOU GOING TO TELL NANA?

NO, BUT YOU SHOULD STOP BY YOURSELF. BESIDES, WE HAVE TO BE UP EARLY TOMORROW FOR MASS.

LAZAR WAS, OF COURSE, SLEEPY IN CHURCH!

BUT THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD, SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH!

LAZAR WOULD SOMETIMES MAKE FUN OF THE PRIEST.

LET'S ALL WAIT AND WAIT AND WAIT...

LAZAR, DON'T WE MUST RESPECT OUR PRIEST.

AGNES IS RIGHT, SON. DO TRY AND FOLLOW HER EXAMPLE.

PERSHAPS DRANA GUESSED THE PERSON AGNES WOULD BECOME.

NIKOLA TRAVELLED A LOT ON BUSINESS BUT THE TIME HE SPENT AT HOME, WAS FULL OF FUN AND LAUGHTER.

PULL OUT ALL THE MATCHBOXES YOU HAVE AND FILE THEM UP HERE!



KOLE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

HA! HA! BUILDING A BONFIRE. IT'S COLD, DRANA!



DRANA AND NIKOLA OFTEN HELPED THEIR NEIGHBOURS WHO WERE IN NEED.

HURRY, GONXHA, WE HAVE TO GO SEE HALLE* ALKETA SHE'S SICK AGAIN.



THIS WILL HELP YOU SLEEP, ALKETA.

POOK BABY, YOUR MOTHER WILL SOON BE BETTER.



ON THE WAY HOME, AGNES WAS THOUGHTFUL.

WHY DOES HALLE ALKETA FALL ILL SO OFTEN?

THEY ARE POOR, SHE OFTEN DOESN'T EAT SO THERE IS ENOUGH FOR THE CHILDREN.



AGNES COULD NOT IMAGINE WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO GO WITHOUT FOOD.

THERE MUST BE SO MANY WHO SUFFER LIKE THIS. I WISH I COULD DO SOMETHING FOR THEM.



NIKOLA WAS KEEN THAT HIS DAUGHTERS
GOT AS GOOD AN EDUCATION AS HIS SON

YOU SHOULD STUDY
NOW, AGNES. YOU
WON'T REALISE HOW
IMPORTANT IT IS UNTIL
YOU'RE MUCH
OLDER.

I WILL, BABA.
I WANT TO BE
A TEACHER
WHEN I GROW
UP.

GOOD! YOU CAN
HELP THOSE WHO
AREN'T AS LUCKY
AS YOU

NIKOLA'S WORK AND TRAVEL KEPT HIM
IN TOUCH WITH POLITICS. ONE DAY -

DRANA, I'M
LEAVING FOR
BELGRADE TOMORROW.
THERE IS A MEETING TO
DISCUSS ALBANIAN
INDEPENDENCE.

THAT NIGHT, AS ALWAYS, THE FAMILY
GATHERED TO PRAY TOGETHER.

THIS IS MY FAVOURITE
TIME OF DAY, WHEN
WE'RE ALL
TOGETHER.

FAMILY PRAYER TIME WAS A PRECIOUS MEMORY
THAT AGNES CARRIED WITH HER ALL HER LIFE.

THE NEXT MORNING, NIKOLA LEFT FOR BELGRADE

I WANT TO
COME TOO!

YOU WILL,
WHEN THE WAR
IS OVER.

SEE YOU
IN A WEEK,
BABA!

THE FAMILY DID NOT
SUSPECT THAT TRAGEDY WOULD SOON BEFALL THEM.

A FEW DAYS LATER -

THERE IS
A STRANGE
CARRIAGE COMING
TO OUR HOUSE,
NANA!

WHO
COULD IT
BE?



IT'S
BABAI!

SOMETHING'S
WRONG!



NIKOLA WAS VERY ILL.

WHAT
HAPPENED
TO HIM? AND
WHO ARE
YOU?

WE'RE FROM THE
ITALIAN CONSUL. YOUR
HUSBAND COLLAPSED
DURING THE TALKS. WE
RUSHED HIM HOME.

HIS
ENEMIES
MUST HAVE
POISONED
HIM!

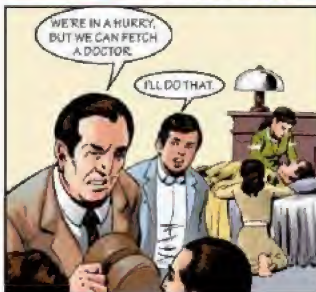
HUSH, LAZAR.
IT LOOKS LIKE A
HEART ATTACK
TO ME.



EVEN TODAY, NO ONE KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED TO NIKOLA

WE'RE IN A HURRY,
BUT WE CAN FETCH
A DOCTOR.

I'LL DO THAT.



DRANA REALISED THAT NIKOLA
WAS DYING.

AGNES, QUICK!
GO AND CALL THE
PRIEST. BABA IS
VERY ILL.



AGNES HURRIED TO THE CHURCH.

IS THE PRIEST
HERE? MY FATHER
IS VERY ILL.

I'M SORRY, HE IS
AWAY.

I SAW A PRIEST WAITING
AT THE RAILWAY
STATION, A WHILE AGO.

I HOPE HE IS
STILL THERE.

AGNES FOUND THE PRIEST.

PLEASE, WILL YOU
COME TO OUR
HOUSE? MY FATHER IS
VERY ILL!

I HAVE A
TRAIN TO CATCH,
CHILD.

BUT OUR PRIEST
ISN'T HERE AND NANA
SAYS WE MUST HAVE
A PRIEST!

THE PRIEST COULD NOT REFUSE AGNES.

YEA, THOUGH I
WALK THROUGH THE
VALLEY OF THE SHADOW
OF DEATH, I SHALL FEAR
NO EVIL.*

THEY TOOK NIKOLA TO THE HOSPITAL BUT HE DIED THE
NEXT DAY. AGNES WAS ONLY EIGHT YEARS OLD.

ALL THE PEOPLE NIKOLA AND DRANA HAD
HELPED, CAME TO COMFORT THE FAMILY.

* A LINE FROM THE BIBLE.

DRANA AND THE CHILDREN GRIEVED DEEPLY FOR NIKOLA. IT WAS A CHANGE WHEN THEIR COUSIN LORENZ ANTONI. CAME VISITING.

COUSIN LORENZ, AGNES AND I ARE SINGING IN THE CONCERT NEXT WEEK.

I'LL TEACH YOU HOW TO PLAY THE MANDOLIN WITH YOUR SONG.

AGNES WAS A QUICK LEARNER.

ON THE DAY OF THE CONCERT -

DO COME, NANA, WE'RE SINGING SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE SONGS TODAY.

I JUST DON'T FEEL UP TO IT, MY DEAR.

SHE KNEW BABA LONGER THAN WE DID. CAN YOU IMAGINE HOW SAD SHE MUST BE?

WITH DRANA SO DEPENDENT, IT WAS AGE WHO LOOKED AFTER AGNES AND LAZAR.

LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF THY PEACE...

THEY SING SO BEAUTIFULLY!

LIKE NIGHTINGALES.

THIS SONG, THE PRAYER OF ST FRANGS OF ASSISI, WOULD ALWAYS BE AGNES' FAVOURITE.

THE MONTHS PASSED, DRANA STILL MISSED NIKOLA TERRIBLY

CHEER UP, NANA



JUST THEN -

BABA'S PARTNER HAS TAKEN ALL THE MONEY FROM THEIR BUSINESS! NANA, WHAT WILL WE LIVE ON?



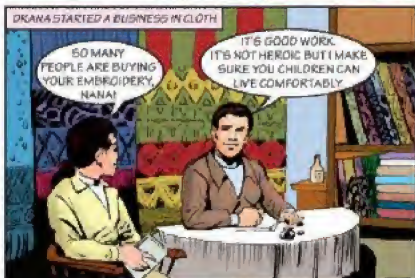
I'LL THINK OF SOMETHING, CHILDREN. DON'T WORRY.



DRANA STARTED A BUSINESS IN CLOTH

SO MANY PEOPLE ARE BUYING YOUR EMBROIDERY, NANA!

IT'S GOOD WORK. IT'S NOT HEROIC BUT I MAKE SURE YOU CHILDREN CAN LIVE COMFORTABLY.



THAT IS WHAT ST THERESE SAYS TOO. EVEN THE SMALLEST WORK IS GOOD, AS LONG AS YOU DO IT WITH LOVE.



ST THERESE IS THE PATRON SAINT OF MISSIONARIES. HER LIFE INSPIRED AGNES

DESPITE HER WORK, DRANA STILL MADE TIME TO HELP WHOEVER SHE COULD.

TRY AND EAT A LITTLE, FILÉ. WHAT'S THE USE OF MY COMING HERE IF YOU WON'T EAT?

IT'S NOT THE FOOD, JUST YOUR BEING HERE MAKES ME FEEL BETTER.



WHAT MAKES FILÉ REALLY SUFFER IS LONELINESS. NANA AND I CANNOT CURE HER SICKNESS BUT WE CAN MAKE SURE SHE FEELS LOVED AND WANTED



EVERY YEAR, THE FAMILY WENT ON A TRIP TO A SHRINE IN LETNICE, IN MONTENEGRO.



DURING ONE SUCH VISIT -

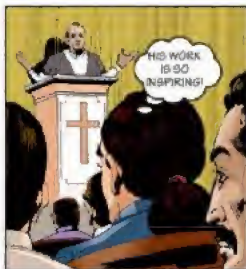
I WANT TO BECOME A MISSIONARY. I WANT TO HELP PEOPLE FAR AWAY. GUIDE ME, MOTHER. LET ME DO WHAT IS RIGHT.

AGNES WAS NOW 12.



SIX YEARS PASSED -

I'M GOING TO THE CHURCH LIBRARY. THE NEW PRIEST, FATHER JAMBREKOVIC, HAS ARRANGED A TALK BY A MISSIONARY WHO WORKED IN INDIA!



HIS WORK IS SO INSPIRING!



TELL ME, CAN I GO AS A MISSIONARY TO INDIA, FATHER JAMBREKOVIC?



IT WILL BE VERY HARD. YOU WILL HAVE TO LEAVE HOME FOREVER. ARE YOU SURE THE THOUGHT OF THIS WORK MAKES YOU HAPPY?



APPLY TO THE LORETO ORDER, THEN. THEY HAVE A MISSION IN INDIA.

YES! YES, IT DOES MAKE ME HAPPY.

THE LORETO ORDER IS A GROUP OF MISSIONARIES WHO TEACH CHILDREN ALL OVER THE WORLD. THEY HAVE MANY SCHOOLS IN INDIA.

*A MISSIONARY IS ONE WHO IS SENT TO DO RELIGIOUS OR CHARITABLE WORK IN ANOTHER COUNTRY OR TERRITORY



*AGNES LIKED TO CALL HER MOTHER 'NANA LOKE', MEANING 'MOTHER OF MY HEART'. LEAVING DRANA WAS ONE OF THE HARDEST THINGS SHE HAD TO DO.

AGNES SPENT TWO MONTHS IN IRELAND, LEARNING ENGLISH. FROM THERE SHE TRAVELLED TO INDIA, HALF A WORLD AWAY, IN CALCUTTA -

I COULD NEVER
IMAGINE PEOPLE LIVING
LIKE THIS. THERE IS SO
MUCH POVERTY, SO
MUCH ILLNESS.

YOU WILL
FEEL BETTER WHEN WE
GET TO THE CONVENT IN
DARJEELING TOMORROW.
THAT'S MUCH
QUIETER.

AFTER CALCUTTA, IT WAS A RELIEF TO BE IN THE COOL
HILLS OF DARJEELING, AT THE LORETO CONVENT -

NAMASTE

NAMASTE

AGNES WANTED TO ASK THE WOMAN
WHO WAS SWEEPING, HER NAME ...

BUT SHE DID NOT
KNOW HOW TO.

KNOWING ENGLISH
MEANS I CAN
SPEAK TO THE OTHER
NUNS, BUT I STILL
CANNOT TALK WITH THE
LOCAL PEOPLE.

AGNES EARNESTLY STARTED
LEARNING HINDI AND BENGALI.

IN 1931, AGNES TOOK HER FIRST VOWS AS A SISTER.
SHE ALSO TOOK A NEW NAME.

I WILL BE SISTER
TERESA, AFTER ST
THERESE WHO FIRST
INSPIRED ME TO BE A
MISSIONARY.

SISTER TERESA TAUGHT AT THE CONVENT
AND WAS A POPULAR TEACHER.

IT'S EASY TO
REMEMBER ITALY.
IT IS THE ONE
SHAPED LIKE A
BOOT!

THERE WAS ALREADY A SISTER THERESE IN THE LORETO
CONVENT, SO SHE WAS CALLED 'THE BENGALI TERESA',
BECAUSE SHE KNEW THE LANGUAGE SO WELL.

THOUGH SISTER TERESA'S STUDENTS LOVED HER CLASSES, SHE FELT SHE COULD DO MORE TO HELP PEOPLE. DURING THE VACATIONS -

I HEAR THERE IS A LOCAL CLINIC FOR PEOPLE WHO CANNOT AFFORD DOCTORS. I WANT TO VOLUNTEER.

IT IS SMALL AND BADLY EQUIPPED. ARE YOU SURE?

I WILL MAKE DO AS WELL AS I CAN.

AT THE CLINIC -

WHO IS FIRST?

I WILL BE YOUR SECOND MOTHER.

HE IS TOO WEAK TO STAND. I HAVE NO FOOD. IF YOU DON'T WANT HIM, I WILL JUST ABANDON HIM. THE JACKALS WILL NOT TURN UP THEIR NOSES AT HIM.

SISTER TERESA TOOK HER FINAL VOWS IN 1937. AT THE CEREMONY IN DAKHEELING, SHE MADE A SECRET PROMISE

I WILL NEVER REFUSE GOD ANYTHING HE MAY EVER ASK OF ME

SHE WAS NOW MOTHER TERESA.

MOTHER LIVED IN THE LORETO CONVENT IN ENTALLY, CALCUTTA. SHE TAUGHT AT ST MARY'S SCHOOL NEXT DOOR. SHE ALSO TAUGHT AT A SMALL BENGALI MEDIUM SCHOOL NAMED ST TERESA'S. ON HER FIRST DAY -

YOU CAN'T LEARN ANYTHING IN THIS DIRT!

SHE PICKED UP A BROOM AND STARTED CLEANING.

I'LL GET A BUCKET OF WATER, MISS.

THE CHILDREN HAD NEVER SEEN A TEACHER LIKE HER BEFORE. THEY CALLED HER 'MA'.

MA, COME HAVE TEA WITH US. WE LIVE JUST DOWN THE ROAD.

THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME MOTHER WAS ACTUALLY GOING INSIDE A BLUM.

THESE ARE MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

HOW DO ALL OF THEM LIVE IN ONE TINY ROOM!

I MUST DO SOMETHING TO HELP THESE CHILDREN.

OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS, MOTHER BECAME MORE AND MORE ABSORBED IN THE WORK AT ST MARY'S SCHOOL. SHE STILL KEPT HEARING ABOUT HOW TERRIBLE LIFE WAS OUTSIDE THE CONVENT. WORLD WAR II WAS GOING ON IN NEIGHBOURING BURMA, THE BRITISH FOUGHT THE JAPANESE AND REFUGEES POURED INTO CALCUTTA.



IN 1942-43, A CYCLONE HIT BENGAL DESTROYING MANY OF THE CROPS.

THE BRITISH ARE TAKING RICE FROM INDIA TO FEED THEIR SOLDIERS. PEOPLE WILL STARVE! WE MUST DO SOMETHING

WHAT CAN WE DO? BESIDES, IT MAY NOT BE SAFE FOR US TO GO OUTSIDE.



MOTHER TERESA COULD NOT STAND BY WITHOUT TRYING TO HELP.

IT'S NOT RIGHT THAT WE ARE PROTECTED IN HERE WHILE PEOPLE NEED HELP OUTSIDE.

WE'LL COME WITH YOU TO HELP.



IN 1944, MOTHER BECAME THE PRINCIPAL OF ST MARY'S.

THE BRITISH DECIDED TO LEAVE INDIA BUT THEY WERE GOING TO PARTITION IT INTO INDIA AND PAKISTAN. ON 16TH AUGUST 1948, HUGE RIOTS BROKE OUT IN CALCUTTA.



INSIDE THE CONVENT -



THIS IS THE
LAST OF OUR
FOOD.

I WILL GO OUT
AND SEE WHAT
I CAN DO.

THE OTHER SISTERS WERE AFRAID
MOTHER TERESA WOULD GET HURT IF
SHE WENT OUTSIDE DURING THE RIOTS.

THAT DAY -



HIDE ME,
PLEASE, OR THE
MOB OUTSIDE WILL
KILL ME.

UHF



I'LL DRESS
YOUR WOUNDS
AND THEN HELP
YOU GO HOME.



I DON'T THINK YOU
SHOULD GO OUT.
MOTHER, IT'S
NOT SAFE!

I CANNOT LET OUR
300 CHILDREN
STARVE. LET ME
GO AND FIND FOOD.

THEY WAITED FOR THE ROAD TO CLEAR.





THE MOB WENT THAT WAY. IF WE GO UP THE OTHER WAY, YOU CAN GET HOME AND I CAN GET FOOD.



THANK YOU! YOU SAVED MY LIFE.



MOTHER FOUND ALL THE SHOPS SHUT. JUST THEN -

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? THE MOBS ARE ATTACKING EVERYONE THEY SEE. IT'S DANGEROUS!

I CAME LOOKING FOR FOOD. THERE ISN'T ANY LEFT FOR THE CHILDREN IN THE CONVENT.

IT WAS A TRUCK FULL OF BRITISH SOLDIERS.



FOOD CAN WAIT. THIS AREA IS NOT SAFE. GET IN. WE'LL DRIVE YOU HOME.

NO. I CAN'T LET THE ENTIRE CONVENT STARVE!

THE SOLDIERS TRIED TO PERSUADE HER TO GO BACK...



... BUT MOTHER TERESA WAS VERY DETERMINED.

WE'LL GIVE YOU SOME OF OUR FOOD. NOW WILL YOU GET IN?



SHE GOT IN, SATISFIED.



WHEN THEY REACHED THE CONVENT -

HERE WE ARE. I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE VERY BRAVE OR JUST VERY STUBBORN, MOTHER.

BLESS YOU!

PEACE WAS FINALLY RESTORED BUT MOTHER TERESA WAS WEAK AND ILL

GO TO DARJEELING FOR A FEW WEEKS AND GET SOME REST



IT WAS ON THE TRAIN TO DARJEELING THAT SHE HEARD A VOICE

LEAVE THE CONVENT! GIVE UP ITS COMFORT AND SAFETY. FOLLOW ME TO THE SLUMS, AMONG THE POOREST OF THE POOR.



STARTLED, MOTHER TERESA LOOKED AROUND ...

MOVE TO THE SLUMS. THIS IS YOUR TRUE VOCATION



... BUT IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE VOICE WAS SPEAKING ONLY TO HER.

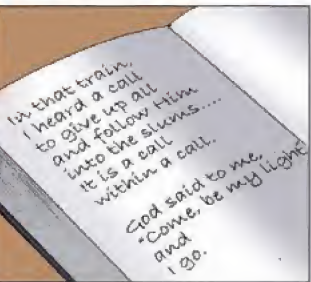
IN DARJEELING -

I HOPE MOTHER TERESA IS ALL RIGHT. USUALLY SHE'S FULL OF JOES AND SONGS

SHE HAS BEEN VERY QUIET. SHE JUST SITS AND WRITES ALL THE TIME!



MOTHER TERESA WAS COMPLETELY ABSORBED IN HER NEW IDEA -



BACK IN CALCUTTA, MOTHER TERESA WENT STRAIGHT TO FATHER VAN EXEM.

FATHER, I NEED YOUR ADVICE. I BELIEVE I HEARD A CALL TO LEAVE THE CONVENT.

THAT IS A VERY BIG STEP TO TAKE. ARE YOU QUITE CERTAIN?



HE WAS CONVINCED BY MOTHER'S SINCERITY -

I THIRST TO DEDICATE MY LIFE TO THE POOREST OF THE POOR, FATHER, TO LIVE AS THEY DO.

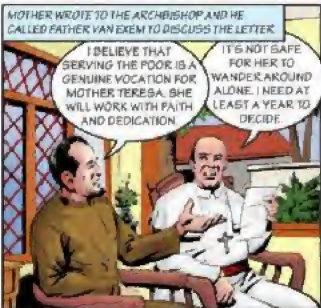
THIS ISN'T WITHIN MY POWER. WRITE TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CALCUTTA FOR GUIDANCE.



MOTHER WROTE TO THE ARCHBISHOP AND HE CALLED FATHER VAN EXEM TO DISCUSS THE LETTER.

I BELIEVE THAT SERVING THE POOR IS A GENUINE VOCATION FOR MOTHER TERESA. SHE WILL WORK WITH FAITH AND DEDICATION.

IT'S NOT SAFE FOR HER TO WANDER AROUND ALONE. I NEED AT LEAST A YEAR TO DECIDE.



THE ARCHBISHOP SAYS YOU MUST STAY IN THE CONVENT FOR A YEAR. HE NEEDS TIME TO DECIDE. BE PATIENT.



OBEDIENT TO THE ARCHBISHOP MOTHER STAYED IN THE CONVENT, THOUGH SHE LONGED TO BE ON THE STREETS.



IT WAS AUGUST 15TH, 1947 AND INDIA BECAME INDEPENDENT. WITH INDEPENDENCE CAME PARTITION...

AND WITH PARTITION CAME HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS. CALCUTTA'S STREETS WERE FULL OF REFUGEES.



MOTHER TERESA WAS HORRIFIED
BY THE MISERY OUTSIDE.

INDIA IS
GOING THROUGH
DAYS OF HATRED.
THE CITY IS FULL OF
SUFFERING. YOU
SHOULD ALL TRY AND
HELP THOSE LESS
FORTUNATE.

WE ARE READY
TO HELP, BUT WE
NEED A LEADER.

WHY CAN'T
YOU BE OUR
LEADER?

I CAN'T,
SUBHASHINI,
MAGDALENA. YOU
KNOW I MUST WAIT
FOR NOW.

MOTHER WAS STILL WAITING FOR
PERMISSION TO LEAVE THE CONVENT.

AS SHE WAITED, MOTHER TERESA WAS HAUNTED BY HER CALL. A POWERFUL VISION SWEEPED
ACROSS HER MIND. ONE IN WHICH MARY, THE MOTHER OF JESUS CHRIST, SPOKE TO HER.

TAKE CARE
OF THEM - THEY ARE
MINE. FEAR NOT, JESUS
AND I WILL BE WITH
YOU AND YOUR
CHILDREN

HER VISIONS FILLED HER WITH URGENCY. STILL, SHE WAITED FOR THE
CHURCH'S PERMISSION. HER REQUEST WAS NOW WITH THE POPE*.

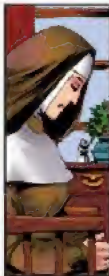
* THE POPE IS THE HEAD OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

THEN ONE DAY FATHER VAN EXEM CALLED HER -

THE POPE HAS WRITTEN

EXCUSE ME FATHER, I MUST PRAY FIRST

MOTHER TERESA SENSED IT WAS AN IMPORTANT OCCASION



WHEN SHE WAS DONE, SHE WAS COMPOSED AS ALWAYS.

YOUR REQUEST HAS BEEN GRANTED. YOU CAN WORK OUTSIDE THE CONVENT.

FATHER, CAN I GO TO THE SLUMS RIGHT AWAY?

IT WAS AUGUST, 1948. IT HAD BEEN TWO YEARS SINCE MOTHER TERESA FIRST HEARD THE CALL

MOTHER LEFT FOR PATNA TO TRAIN IN NURSING AND FIRST AID. HER STUDENTS AND THE OTHER SISTERS GAVE HER A TOUCHING FAREWELL

DID MOTHER REALLY HAVE TO LEAVE US? WE MISS HER SO.

WE MISS HER TOO BUT SHE WANTS TO SERVE THE POOR. THAT IS WHAT WILL MAKE HER HAPPIEST

FATHER VAN EXEM WENT TO MEET MOTHER IN PATNA -

I DIDN'T RECOGNISE YOU IN THAT SARI!

HA HA! BUT IT WAS YOU WHO BLESSED MY NEW SARIS. IF I HAVE TO HELP THE POOREST, I MUST LIVE LIKE THEY DO.

MOTHER HAD CHOSEN THE CHEAPEST SARI, SIMILAR TO ONE WORN BY MUNICIPAL CLEANERS, IN CALCUTTA

MOTHER SOON FINISHED HER TRAINING. SHE WENT TO STAY WITH THE "LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR" IN CALCUTTA. ONCE THERE, SHE HEADED STRAIGHT TO A SLUM CALLED, MOTI MEEL.

HERE ARE THE POOREST OF THE POOR, WHOM I HAVE VOWED TO HELP

SOON, HER FIRST CLASS WAS IN FULL SWING!

KO KHO-GO GHO"

MORE AND MORE CHILDREN JOINED THE SCHOOL. MOTHER'S CLASSES WERE ALWAYS FUN.

REMEMBER, THE CLEANEST ONE WILL GET THE BOX OF SWEETS! NOW LET'S START. ONE NOGEI WASHI TWO EARS! WASHI NOW JUMP!

SOME OF MOTHER'S OLD STUDENTS, INCLUDING MAGDALENA AND SUBHASHINI, CAME TO SEE HER.

YEARS AGO WE SAID WE'D HELP IF YOU WOULD LEAD US.

LET US JOIN YOU NOW.

THEY TOOK THEIR VOWS AS SISTER AGNES (AFTER MOTHER) AND SISTER GERTRUDE.

MOTHER WANTED THE CHILDREN TO LEARN SKILLS, USING WASTE MATERIAL. SHE AND HER SISTERS TAUGHT TOY-MAKING WITH CARDBOARD.

ISN'T MY SOLDIER ALMOST AS GOOD AS PATRO'S?

AND KNITTING WITH TWIGS.

UP HERE, LOOF, AND PULL LIKE THIS!

SOON, MORE SISTERS JOINED THEM.

WITH SO MANY OF YOU HELPING, I CAN START A DISPENSARY.

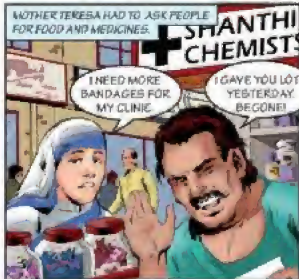
FATHER VAN EXEM CAME TO VISIT THEM -



THAT EVENING -



MOTHER TERESA HAD TO ASK PEOPLE FOR FOOD AND MEDICINES.



SHE PERSISTED -



ONE ROOM WAS FOR THE SCHOOL, THE OTHER WAS A SMALL DISPENSARY -

DON'T FORGET TO TAKE THE MEDICINE AFTER YOU EAT SOMETHING.

A RICH BUSINESSMAN IN MADRAS AGREED TO MEET MOTHER ABOUT DONATING FOR A "SHISHU BHAYAN". MOTHER WAS PUNCTUAL.

HE'S NOT READY YET. YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT.

SHE WAITED A WHOLE HOUR. FINALLY -

WHAT IS IT YOU WANT?

A STREAM OF BETEL-JUICE.

... FLEW OUT...

... AND FELL ON MOTHER'S SARI.

MOTHER NEVER MINDED HUMILIATION FOR HERSELF.

THANK YOU FOR THIS GIFT. NOW WHAT ABOUT MY CHILDREN?

FORGIVE ME! I HAVE BEEN RUDE!

THE MAN DONATED GENEROUSLY. HIS GRANDCHILDREN GIVE MONEY TO THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY TO THIS DAY.

EVEN WITH MONEY, IT WAS NOT EASY. PEOPLE WERE SUSPICIOUS. THEY SPOKE IN FRONT OF HER, THINKING SHE DID NOT UNDERSTAND BENGALI!



NO, THEY WANT TO TAKE OUR MONEY AWAY.



FINALLY MOTHER SPOKE TO THEM IN BENGALI -



A YEAR HAD PASSED, AND THE CHURCH HAD LET MOTHER TERESA START A NEW ORDER, THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY. THEIR MAIN BUILDING WAS NAMED 'MOTHER HOUSE'.



SISTER AGNES TRAINED AS A TEACHER.



... AND SISTER GERTRUDE AS A DOCTOR, ON HER FIRST DAY -



THE NEXT DAY, THE MAN WAS MUCH BETTER.



FOR THOSE WHO COULD NOT BE CURED, MOTHER STARTED A HOSPICE IN KALIGHAT, IN A PLACE GIVEN TO HER BY THE GOVERNMENT. SHE CALLED IT NIRMAL HRIDAY, WHICH MEANS PURE HEART.

WE WILL GIVE THEM THE BEST MEDICAL CARE!

THE BIGGEST DISEASE IS FEELING UNWANTED. WE NEED TO LOVE AND COMFORT PEOPLE IN THEIR LAST DAYS.

NEXT DOOR WAS A KALI TEMPLE. THE PRIESTS THERE WERE VERY ANGRY WITH MOTHER.

WHY DID YOU BUILD YOUR HOSPICE HERE?

THIS IS A TEMPLE

THEN ONE OF THE PRIESTS FELL INCURABLY ILL.

IT'S TB I'M AS GOOD AS DEAD*. BUT DON'T TRY TO FOOL ME INTO JOINING YOU.

THAT'S NOT WHY I'M HERE. YOU SHOULD BE RESTING

SHE TOOK HIM TO NIRMAL HRIDAY. A FEW DAYS LATER -

YOU HAVE BEEN GOOD TO ME, EVEN THOUGH I SHOUTED AT YOU, EVEN THOUGH YOU KNOW I WILL DIE SOON.

EVERYONE DESERVES TO DIE WITH DIGNITY

YOU HAVE GIVEN HIM PEACE. THANK YOU.

SHE HAD WON THEIR RESPECT.

MOTHER FOUND THAT THERE WAS ALWAYS SO MUCH MORE TO BE DONE.

IT'S LATE, CHILD GO TO BED.



IT WAS A GROUP OF LEPERS.

WE HEARD YOU HELP THE POOREST OF THE POOR. DO YOU EVEN HELP LEPERS?

OF COURSE! COME IN.



WHEN WE WERE DIAGNOSED WITH LEPROSY WE WERE MADE TO LEAVE OUR HOMES AND OUR VILLAGES. SO WE DON'T SPREAD THE DISEASE.



BUT THERE IS A MEDICINE FOR LEPROSY, NOW. IT WILL STOP THE DISEASE AND YOU CAN LIVE NORMALLY. NO ONE AROUND YOU WILL BE INFECTED.

NO ONE TOLD US, LET ALONE GAVE US MEDICINE.



PEOPLE ARE SCARED TO EVEN COME NEAR US. THEIR FEAR CLOUDS THEIR MINDS.

WE MUST DO SOMETHING!



MOTHER STARTED A COLONY CALLED BHANTI NAGAR.

THIS IS YOUR HOME NOW.



IN BHANTI NAGAR, PEOPLE WITH LEPROSY HAVE THEIR OWN HOUSES. THEY EARN A LIVING BY FARMING, SPINNING OR CARPENTRY.

MOTHER FELT THE SUFFERING AROUND HER, DEEP WITHIN HER SELF.

SO MUCH PAIN AND GRIEVE! WE HAVE BEEN WORKING FOR YEARS BUT IT NEVER ENDS.

BUT SHE NEVER LET THIS DARKNESS AFFECT HER WORK. SHE JUST WENT ON.

FROM 1960, MOTHER STARTED OPENING HOMES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY. A SHISHU BHAVAN WAS STARTED IN DELHI -

IT'S THE PRIME MINISTER! HOW COME HE'S HERE?

IT WAS PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU!

I KNOW I WASN'T INVITED, BUT I WANTED TO BE HERE ON THIS OCCASION.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT OUR WORK?

NO, I'VE READ ALL ABOUT IT THAT'S WHY I'M HERE.

SHE WAS FAMOUS! A FEW YEARS LATER, THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT AWARDED HER THE PADMA BHUSH.

1970-71, BHOLA CYCLONE HIT EAST PAKISTAN, KILLING ALMOST 500,000 PEOPLE. LATER THAT YEAR WAR BROKE OUT THERE, AS THE PEOPLE FOUGHT TO BECOME AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY, BANGLADESH.

WITH SO MUCH HUNGER AND DESTRUCTION, THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY WORKED TIRELESSLY. MOTHER OPENED HOMES IN OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL.





BY 1997, MOTHER TERESA WAS VERY ILL.

I'M OLD AND ILL NOW. I CAN'T WORK AS WELL AS I USED TO. YOU MUST LET ME STEP DOWN AS HEAD OF THE ORDER.

MOTHER RESIGNED AND THE ORDER ELECTED SISTER NIRMALA AS THE NEW HEAD.

I AM SO HAPPY! MAY GOD'S BLESSINGS ALWAYS BE WITH YOU.

I WILL SERVE THE ORDER, BUT NO ONE CAN REPLACE YOU AS MOTHER.

A FEW MONTHS LATER, ON SEPTEMBER 5TH, JUST AFTER FREE INDIA HAD TURNED 50 YEARS OLD, MOTHER TERESA PASSED AWAY. SHE WAS GIVEN A STATE FUNERAL WITH FULL HONOURS.

